



Minutes

World Taekwondo Ordinary Council Meeting (via conference call)

20h00-21h00 | October 10, 2021 (local time Korea)

AGENDA

- 1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. President Report**
- 3. Approval**
 - Approval of the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting on June 17, 2021
 - Approval of the Agenda of the 2021 General Assembly on October 11, 2021
- 4. 2020-2021 Reports**
 - a. Approval of Operation Report
 - b. Approval of Finance Report
 - i. Treasurer's Report on the 2020 Financial Statements
 - ii. Auditor's Report on the 2020 Accounts
- 5. Report**
 - a. Governance of Pan America: Interim Management Committee
 - b. Report of WT Election Committee for 2021 WT Elections
- 6. Next Council Meeting**
- 7. Closing of Meeting**

Appendix 1: Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on June 17, 2021

Appendix 2: Agenda and Documents for the 2021 General Assembly on October 11, 2021

1. Establish Quorum: Call Meeting to Order

1. The meeting was called to order by the **CHAIR** of the Meeting, **Dr. Chungwon Choue**, WT President.

The **CHAIR** welcomed Council Members for joining the Ordinary Council meeting in 2021. He then asked **Mr. Hoss Rafaty**, Secretary General, to announce the quorums.

2. **Mr. Hoss Rafaty** announced that twenty-five (25) Council Members and two (2) Auditors were present, thereby establishing a quorum in accordance with Article 8.6 of the WT Statutes.
3. The **CHAIR** noted that the following member is absent with prior notice:
 - **Mr. Athanasios Pragalos**, Vice President (By the request of **Mr. Pragalos**, **Mr. Antonio Barbarino** is present at the meeting on behalf of **Mr. Pragalos**)
4. He noted that the following members are absent without prior notice:
 - **Mr. Kamaladdin Heydarov**, Vice President
 - **Mr. Tae Kyung Kim**, Council Member
 - **Mr. Anthony Ferguson**, Council Member
 - **Mr. An-Chin Hsu**, Council Member

2. President Report

5. The **CHAIR** congratulated the newly elected vice presidents and members of each Continental Union ("CU").
6. He mentioned that it is time to restart and elevate World Taekwondo to the top as ASOIF will conduct their fourth governance review in the coming months, where WT will aim to be at least A2, if not A1. He informed that the IOC will also confirm the sports for the LA 2028 at its Session in Beijing next February.
7. He wished for the new CUs to work closely with World Taekwondo as WT aims to become one of the best and most respected international sports federations by the 50th founding anniversary in 2023.
8. He addressed that WT has experienced both highs and lows over the past four months; the high is very successful completion of the Taekwondo competitions at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and a fantastic debut at the Paralympic Games. He noted that WT managed to showcase a lot of good things about Taekwondo – fair competitions, high standard of refereeing, respect from everyone, and a new generation of champions who will be the names to watch out for in years to come.
9. He stated that 17 out of the 32 medalists were medalists at the Youth Olympic Games or at the World Junior or World Cadet championships, which is an important indicator of why WT should focus on encouraging participation in the youth championships. He said that IOC President Thomas Bach came to watch Taekwondo twice, which was a great boost to WT, and he witnessed how fair Taekwondo was with the new 4D camera complementing the instant video replay system.
10. He noted that main reasons for IOC President's visit was to encourage refugee Taekwondo athletes. He added that WT received a lot of unexpected publicity when Afghanistan athlete Zakia Khudadadi appealed to the world for help. He also said that he was impressed by exciting matches of Taekwondo at the Paralympic Games. He mentioned that he has formed an ad-hoc

committee comprising of international and Korean experts to look into improving our competition rules to make Taekwondo more exciting and dynamic for the future.

11. He mentioned that WT organized two editions of the Online World Taekwondo Poomsae Open Challenge in June and September which will be one of the key WT-promoted events even after the pandemic is over.
12. He said that he was disappointed at some of the happenings within the CUs with the approach to the elections with accusations and outdated conservative thinking that hurting the Taekwondo community. He hoped that it will not be repeated.
13. He concluded his report by saying that diversity is WT's strength. He asked for rebuilding relationships, celebrating diversity and welcoming new faces. He asked any comments before moving to the next agenda.
14. There were none.

3. Approval of the Minutes

a. *Approval of the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on June 17, 2021*

15. The **CHAIR** asked the Council to approve the minutes, noting that there were no comments when the minutes were distributed in advance. This was seconded and approved by the Council.
16. The **CHAIR** declared that the minutes were approved by the Council.

- ***Decision: Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting held on June 17, 2021 are approved by the Council.***

b. *Approval of the agenda of the 2021 General Assembly on October 11, 2021*

17. The **CHAIR** asked the Council to approve the agenda as there were no comments when the minutes were distributed. This was seconded and approved by the Council.

- ***Decision: Agenda of the 2021 General Assembly on October 11, 2021 are approved by the Council.***

4. 2020-2021 Reports

a. *Approval of Operation Report*

18. The **CHAIR** gave the floor to **Mr. Hoss Rafaty** to present the operation report.
19. **Mr. Hoss Rafaty** reported that the pandemic in 2020 resulted in World Taekwondo having lesser operating revenue than the previous year so World Taekwondo had to cut its budget for 2021 to offset the lack of resources. He mentioned that for 2021, the expected income was set at 5.78 million dollars against an expected expense line of 6.99 million dollars, and one of the key reasons for a low expected income is because WT has still not fully returned to organizing competitions, and that is expected to change next year.
20. He continued to say that the pandemic also presented an opportunity for World Taekwondo to, in the words of the President, reset, and despite operating on a reduced budget, WT continued to invest in development programs, including with the IOC and IPC. He noted that this resulted in refugee Taekwondo athletes participating in the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo for the first time. He informed that the Council and Committees met more than 150 times virtually, thereby ensuring that WT meet regularly to discuss ways in which WT could operate efficiently and safely.

21. He addressed that WT delivered numerous online initiatives for stakeholders, such as: virtual competitions like the Online WT Poomsae Open Challenge for athletes and grassroots, and more than 3,000 people worldwide have participated in the virtual competitions so far. He also noted that WT expanded education and training programs for referees, coaches, and technical delegates, and more than 4,120 members from 138 MNAs took part in the 61 online courses in 2020, and more than 2,150 members so far in 2021.
22. He stated that forums for global targets like gender equity and women empowerment have earned praise from institutions like the IOC and partner NOCs. And GMS, which has operated under the WT international foundation in the U.S., finally moved to the Seoul headquarters at the end of 2020. He noted that every operation is now with the HQ and the WTIF accounts have been audited to the last penny, and as per U.S. procedures, WTIF will shut down by the end of 2021 and all remaining funds will be transferred to the HQ. He mentioned that WT is also close to renewing the service agreement with Simply Compete, and will work with them on a co-marketing basis to serve the MNAs.
23. He informed that WT had an excellent score in the ASOIF governance review last year in the third review, and this year, to further enhance good governance for the fourth review, WT worked tirelessly with the continental unions to align their CU statutes. He said that some MNAs have already begun the process and the MNA survey will be another key indicator of how WT can help the MNAs.
24. He mentioned that the WT Demonstration Team delivered outstanding performances to go all the way to the Final of America's Got Talent, and even though WT did not win the grand prize, the promotion of WT and Taekwondo on a global scale has been unbelievable. He concluded his report.
25. The **CHAIR** asked Council to approve the Operation Report for the General Assembly to be held on October 11, 2021. This was seconded and approved by the Council.

- ***Decision: The Operation Report is approved by the Council.***

b. Approval of Finance Report

i. Treasurer's Report on the 2020 Financial Statements

26. The **CHAIR** gave the floor to **Mr. Pimol Srivikorn**, Treasurer, to report the Finance Report.
27. **Mr. Pimol Srivikorn** reported that in 2019 WT made a loss; however, in 2020, due to effective and practical management, WT made a profit of about US\$34,544, which was assuring from the financial point of view. He also mentioned that the profit was based on the reduction of operating expenses from 2019 to 2020.

ii. Auditor's Report on the 2020 Accounts

28. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Hoss Rafaty** to present Auditor's Report on the 2020 Accounts on behalf of the auditors.
29. **Mr. Hoss Rafaty** reported that auditors have examined WT's financial statements ending December 31st last year and they confirm that the financial statements audited by an independent auditing firm in Korea conform with the general accounting principles in accordance with the Korean International Financial Reporting Standard. He mentioned that the auditors recommend the acceptance of the WT financial statements for 2020.
30. The **CHAIR** asked Council to approve the Finance Report for General Assembly to be held on

October 11, 2021. This was approved by the Council.

- **Decision: The Finance Report is approved by the Council.**

5. Report

a. *Governance of Pan America: Interim Management Committee*

31. The **CHAIR** asked **Mr. Ivan Dibos**, Honorary Vice President, to update the Governance of Pan America.
32. **Mr. Ivan Dibos** addressed the steps taken to rectify the issues discovered from the prior administration of Pan America Taekwondo Union (PATU). He mentioned that the Interim Management Committee (IMC) stepped in to correct the situation in accordance with the resolution from the WT Council in June this year, and following WT's rules and regulations
33. He continued to mention regarding PATU's legal entity; WT have established PATU as a non-profit entity once again that is governed by its members. The United States was chosen since it has strong rules and regulations that ensure the non-profit's funds are not used for purposes outside the entity's designated public benefit activity and the state's registration process allows for the non-profit be registered in less than 24 hours and a bank account be opened the following date. He also addressed that opening a non-profit requires extensive documentation which the IMC ensured was submitted in compliance with local and international laws as well as all documentation submitted sets clear parameters for good governance and financial transparency so the mismanagement of the past should not be repeated.
34. He also updated on bank account and finances; the governing documents for the non-profit PATU were provided to the banking institution where the account was opened, and therefore, the bank has notice that the account cannot be closed or transferred without the express authorization of the membership. He noted that IMC also is in the process of obtaining PATU's tax exempt status as a 501(c)(3) so it will not be required to pay taxes on its non-profit activities.
35. He mentioned in terms of PATU Statutes and Election Process; the new PATU adopted a new PATU Statutes and Election Bylaw in strict alignment with WT, and under those bylaws the suspended former PATU administrators were not eligible to run unless they successfully cleared the charges against them so that those individuals had several months to present exculpatory evidence regarding the role, they played in the severe mismanagement of PATU. He also noted that **Mr. Rick Shin**, former PATU secretary general, tried to stop the PATU elections by asking a United States court to intervene instead of following the dispute resolution process.
36. He addressed that **Mr. Rick Shin** tried to demonstrate that he had valid argument to seek the court's intervention and that he was not at fault of the accusations made against him, and he placed the blame on the shoulders of the former PATU President, Treasurer, and Auditor so that WT legal team had all the necessary evidence at hand and was able to demonstrate the strength to our position to the court. He stressed that the judge heard the arguments of both sides and ruled that PATU's argument had merit and rejected **Mr. Rick Shin's** case for suspending the elections.
37. He reported that the IMC presented a report to the PATU Council and General Assembly, including failure to document how more than 850,000 U.S. dollars received from WT was used. He informed that IMC has successfully managed the 2021 PATU Council meeting, General Assembly and Elections, and has fulfilled its mandates and will now transfer governance to the new administration. He then said that IMC agrees with WT Integrity Committee that WT

continues providing assistance and instructional sessions to PATU to ensure that good governance and financial transparency implemented is continued by the next administrations.

38. The **CHAIR** thanked **Mr. Ivan Dibos** for leadership in dealing with the issues in Pan America, and said that WT looks forward to a new PATU being a role model for all CUs.

b. Report of WT Election Committee for 2021 WT Elections

39. The CHAIR gave the floor to **Ms. Aicha Garad Ali**, Chair of the ad-hoc Election Committee and **Mr. Jean-Marie Ayer**, Member of the ad-hoc Election Committee to report the progress of WT Election Committee for 2021 WT Elections.
40. **Ms. Aicha Garad Ali** mentioned that WT Election Committee has worked together for the past couple of months, and the Committee was made of herself, **Mr. Jean-Marie Ayer and Mr. Jung Heon Kim with support of WT head of Legal Affairs Office, Mr. Corbin Min**.
41. **Mr. Jean-Marie Ayer** showed the list of all candidates; one (1) candidate for President, thirty-three (33) candidates for Council Members and two (2) candidates for Auditor. He confirmed that one (1) President, seventeen (17) Council Members and one (1) Auditor will be elected, and the term for officials elected this year shall run from 2021 to 2025. He then presented election procedure.
42. The **CHAIR** thanked **Ms. Aicha Garad Ali** and **Mr. Jean-Marie Ayer**. He stated that it is his honor to have served as a President of World Taekwondo for five terms, since 2004. He added that some Council members have been together on this journey since even before him, and along the way, WT has lost some Council members either through health or other reasons.
43. He remarked that all members including himself started as strangers and became a family, and for some of members, it will be the end of journey, and for others, it will be a new start. He mentioned that regardless of the election results at the General Assembly to be held tomorrow, all members will always be his family.

6. Next Council Meeting

44. The **CHAIR** mentioned that WT will organize an Orientation Meeting for Council members on November 4th, same time at 8 p.m. Korean time, and noted that a calling notice and agenda will be sent out to the Council after the election. He added that the Orientation Meeting will give an important overview of the activities and programs in WT, which will be useful to build capacity of the Council members.
45. He addressed that the next Council meeting is scheduled to take place on the occasion of the World Taekwondo Championships in Wuxi in April 2022, and the date of the Council Meeting is on April 11, 2022 with the General Assembly on April 12th, which will be followed by the World Championships from April 13th to 19th. He noted that the World Championships has been postponed before; therefore, WT needs a guarantee that it will happen in Wuxi, and believes it will be held since by then, China would have finished hosting the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.
46. He asked the Council to pass a resolution that World Taekwondo must receive a guarantee by January 17th next year that the World Taekwondo Championships will take place as scheduled in April 2022, and he also asked **Mr. Dejun Sun**, Council member, to convey the message to the Chinese government and the Chinese Taekwondo Association.

7. Closing of Meeting

47. The **CHAIR** remarked that this is the 12th Council meeting since this Council took office after Muju in 2017, and these past four years have been extremely rewarding. He said that candidates must respect the fair and transparent process, and respect the final results, which is a spirit of Taekwondo. He wished all the best to the members.
48. He adjourned the Ordinary Council Meeting of World Taekwondo.